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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

77093

25X1A

COUNTRY Hungary

DATE:

INFO. 17 April 1947

SUBJECT Personalities of Hungarian Restitution  
Committee

DIST. 20XX May 1947

PAGES 3

25X1A

ORIGIN

SUPPLEMENT

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1. Miklós Nyáradi: Hungarian Minister of Finance and High Commissioner ad interim of the Restitution Committee. Nyaradi was born in 1906 or 1907 of a rich half-Jewish family named Scheidl. He was an auditor of the Hungarian Central Financial Institute (FK) in Budapest. He spent a year in the United States, and upon his return was made Vice-Director of the Institute. During the recent war Nyaradi succeeded his father as legal adviser of the Pester Savings Bank. After the war he was made director of the bank. Nyaradi established a friendship with Zoltán Vas, and on the latter's recommendation was appointed Under-Secretary of Finance and High Commissioner of the Restitution.

Nyaradi is one of the few Hungarian officials who seems to have little difficulty in obtaining travel permits. It is claimed that he is Vas' personal banker and that "according to well-informed sources" he disposes of funds and jewelry in unidentified banks in Zurich and Paris on behalf of Vas and the latter's friends.

Although Nyaradi is a member of the Small Holders Party, he does what Vas and his Communist friends ask of him.

(Field Comment: Nyaradi retained his post as High Commissioner ad interim after his appointment as Minister of Finance on 14 March 1947. No appointment to replace him has yet been made. He is described as well-educated, intelligent, ambitious, and vain. It was necessary for him to remain in the good graces of the Communist Party because his activities as High Commissioner were under the direction of Zoltan Vas. The majority of the Small Holders resent his superior attitude, and he is not popular in the Party. Because of this unpopularity his appointment to his present post was once blocked when he was about to succeed former Finance Minister Gordon, now Hungarian Minister to Switzerland.)

2. Restitution Committee in Germany

Dr. Sándor Hahn: Hahn is in charge of the Frankfurt Restitution Mission. He is an old-time Social Democrat and is now the head of the Health Department of Budapest and a member of the Budapest Municipal Council. Hahn is said to have acquired considerable property since the end of the war, and his

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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA RTG 77/1763

Date: 20XX/09/08

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25X1A

- 2 -

77093

recent comparative wealth is linked to his frequent trips abroad. He is believed to be involved in illegal currency transactions and in illegal automobile transactions with Nyáradí.

Odón Gáspár: Deputy to Háhn. A Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was a member of the Hungarian Legation in Ankara during the war. He left the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the Szálasi period, but was reinstated after the liberation. Gáspár was recently recalled to Budapest and has not yet returned to his post.

Eva Roskoványi: Nyáradí ordered the recall of an expert from the Frankfurt Restitution Mission in order to make room for Miss Roskoványi, who is reported to have a special assignment.

József Cseh: Chief of Mission in Hannover, he is an engineer by profession.

### 3. Hungarian Restitution Mission Branch in Vienna

László Varvasovszky: Director of the Mission in Austria. During the war he was a Secretary in the Foreign Trade Office. A member of the Hungarian Legation in Berlin during the Szálasi regime, he became a displaced person after the war and came to Vienna, where he was appointed to his present post.

(Field Comment: Varvasovszky is not a member of any political party. He is definitely pro-Western, honest, and reliable.)

Zoltán Kovács: Deputy and rival of Varvasovszky, who also worked in the Foreign Trade Office. Kovács was an officer in the Hungarian military intelligence service during 1942-43.

János Gara: Attached to the Restitution Mission from the Ministry of Public Supply. A former land-owner, Gara is said now to be a Communist Party member. He is a close friend of Zoltán Kovács.

Ferenc Szederkenyi: Representative of the Ministry of Industry serving with the Restitution Mission. A young engineer who formerly worked at the Diosgyőr Iron Foundry. Szederkenyi is not a Communist.

Antal Rojti: Russian language interpreter. Unimportant.

Pál Csikány: Minor official.

Colonel Mihály Nagy: Former Military Attache in Berlin. An ex-concentration camp inmate and member of the Small Holders Party. Nagy is pro-Western, but is described as an opportunist.

Captain József Hamvas: Was a General Staff Corps officer before the war. Joined the Communist Party in August 1945.

István Bezegh: A chief engineer of the Hungarian Railway Association, Bezegh handles railway shipments of repatriated property. He is a conscientious official, and does not participate in the intrigues of the Mission.

Lajos Der: Treasurer of the Mission. He is said to be soliciting the friendship of Kovács, but is not a Communist.

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- 3 -

25X1A

László Toth: General Secretary of the League of Hungarian Manufacturing Industries. Represents this organization in the Mission. He is said to be prevented from participating effectively in Mission affairs because of the hostility of Hahn, Kovács, and their friends. He has been a member of the Small Holders Party since 1931, and is pro-Western in his outlook.

4. Restitution Branch in Linz

András Wanni: Titular chief of the Linz branch, he is a Section Counsellor in the Ministry of Public Supply, representing this department in the Restitution Mission. Wanni is a member of the Small Holders Party. He works from the Vienna office.

János Juhász: Deputy to Wanni. He was formerly with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

5. Restitution Branch in Innsbruck

Edit Barcsai: Chief of Mission. Barcsai was formerly a student at the University of Paris and a Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is said to be a confidante of Nyaradi's. Nyaradi wanted to appoint her Chief of the Baden-Baden Mission, but French authorities disapproved because of her extreme leftist affiliations.

Dr. István Révész: Deputy Chief of Mission. Révész publicly states he is not a leftist and does not wish to return to Hungary. Before the war he was an attorney for the Manfred Weiss Concern. Colonel Timar, deputy to General Gábor Péter in the Hungarian Political Police, is a very close friend of Révész.

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